

FOREST FORUM 11/13/09

Teaching and Learning Highlights from the Forest...

Your child is using Macmillan McGraw Hill's *Math Connects* in the classroom this year. In order to support your child at home, you may want to take advantage of the many activities and support resources available on the website for *Math Connects*. Here's how:

1. Type in the URL www.macmillanmh.com
2. Select the "Math" button on the left side of the screen.
3. Select "Mathematics/*Math Connects 2009*" from the drop down menu that says "Select a Program".
4. Select "New York" from the drop down menu that says "Select a State".
5. Press the "Go" button.

Find the cover of the book for your child's grade level and select this book.

Once you have completed the above steps, you will be viewing the options that students have to extend math concepts and skills for Chapter 1, Lesson 1. To change chapters, click on the number of the chapter you would like to view. To change lessons, click on the number of the lesson you would like to view.

For each lesson within each chapter there are four categories of options.

1. Online Tools-you can access your child's book online
2. Activities
3. Learn More-tutorial
4. Online Assessments

After you have explored the resources available for students, try exploring the resources available for families. Click the blue "Family" tab at the top of the page. Here you will find...

Family Handbook - Additional information about the *Math Connects* program, internet safety, common education terms, and State standards.

Build Math Skills - Additional resources for parents to reference at home.

User Guides - Online user guides to assist parents and students with online learning activities.

Useful Links - Specially selected links to other sites that compliment and enrich the *Math Connects* program.

Math Technology - Links to the student book, multilingual glossary, and media center from the family page.

Math Books to Share - Hundreds of Math literature books that are selected to compliment each grade of *Math Connects*, searchable by grade, title, author and publisher.

Happy Surfing!!

PTA Updates

11/18 PTA Meeting

A Report Card presentation will be made by the Principal. Please come to this important meeting so you will be informed about changes that were made this year.

Upcoming Events

11/16-20 American Education Week

(Make sure your teacher knows when you are coming to visit the classroom)

11/16 & 17 5th Grade Social Studies

Exam

11/23 & 24 The Living Earth Presentation

(sponsored by the PTA-Students Only)

11/23 BOE Mtng. Shaw Ave 8:30 PM

11/26 & 27 School Closed for Thanksgiving

12/7 Report Cards go home

12/9 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Building Level Team

Our BLT met on 11/12/09. Thank you to all the members who were able to attend. We reviewed the Fall Festival/Harvest Week and shared feedback from all the stakeholders. Our changes this year were well received and we look forward to making improvements again next year. Action Plans for grades 3-6 regarding the development of ELA skills were discussed and plans for American Education Week reviewed. Going forward, the Eastwood Lane entrance to our parking lot will be closed. Please use only the entrance on Forest Road, and then, only use this if you are visiting the school. Students should NEVER be dropped off in the parking lot. Many people are using an excessive rate of speed in the lot as well as on the surrounding streets of the school. Please be mindful that the safety of our children is a priority. We encourage you to use extreme caution so that accidents may be avoided. Also, please remember that Jasmine Lane (adjacent to the playground) should only be used for a drop-off point to minimize traffic congestion. The Team is also working on acquiring a grant for a beautification project for the front of our building. Minutes from the meeting will be posted in the Main Lobby. A BLT mailbox has also been installed directly outside of the Principal's Office for your suggestions, comments, feedback or ideas.